

THE COLONNADE

Georgia College's Student Newspaper

FLU OUTBREAK SPREADS ACROSS GEORGIA COLLEGE

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January 31- February 6, 2018

gcsucolonnade.com

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THE COLONNADE

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Nationwide flu outbreak hits GC's campus, breaking records

Emmy Cooper
Staff Writer

GC Student Health Services staff has diagnosed more than 150 students with the flu, breaking previous records and making this the worst flu season in GC history.

Student Health Services Director Alice Loper said that this outbreak is the worst she has seen in her 47 years in the medical field.

"The number of cases is phenomenal," she said. "We have been diagnosing 30 to 35 cases of the flu a day."

The specific flu strain, known as H3N2, continues to spread across the United States. Common symptoms include high fever, body aches and severe cough.

Junior Duncan Williams, a computer science major, was the first patient at GC diagnosed with the flu during the 2017-18 school year.

"I had a feeling I had the flu after looking at symptoms online, but the nurse told me no one had been diagnosed with the flu yet," he said. "After she took the flu test, the nurse came in and diagnosed me as patient zero at GC."

The Health Center's protocol states that immediately following diagnosis with the flu, a student should not to come to campus until they are 24 hours fever free. For many students, a flu diagnosis could mean falling behind in their classes.

Sophomore Megan Doritty, a pre-nursing major, missed an entire week of school when she caught the flu.

"It was really stressful because

you miss a lot of work, and if you already are struggling in a class, then you fall even more behind," Doritty said.

"The number of cases is phenomenal."

-Alice Loper MN, APRN

Senior Jordyn Jones, a marketing major who also holds an off-campus internship, caught the flu right at the beginning of the semester.

"I had a bunch of tests coming up, I was wrapping up all these projects, and I had presentations the following week," she said. "Most of my teachers were understanding, thankfully, but it was still very stressful."

Although the outbreak seems pervasive, students can protect themselves in several simple ways.

"The number one thing you can do is get a flu shot," Loper said. "The vaccine will decrease your chances of getting the flu by 20 to 30 percent."

In addition to getting their flu shots, Student Health Services encourages students to take precautions at home to protect against the flu. Students should regularly wash their hands, keep a travel hand sanitizer in their backpack and disinfect commonly touched surfaces, like phones and computers.

GC also advises students who feel sick to stay at home and not come to campus to reduce the risk of spreading the virus further. Teachers have been notified not penalize their students for missing class if a student tells them they have the flu.

The Student Health Services clinic will be extending its hours to 8 p.m. each night of the week of Jan. 29, due to the rapid increase of students visiting it daily.

"We can only hope that this flu outbreak peaks soon," Loper said. "It's got to."

THIS WEEK AT GC

A calendar of events

Play: "Ignacio and Maria"

Wed. Jan. 31st - Feb. 2nd.

Black Box Theatre

GC's Department of Theatre and Dance presents "Ignacio and Maria," a Cuban play newly translated by Dr. Yael Prizant, GC's Newell Scholar. Tickets can be purchased at the door and are \$3 for GC students and \$5 for GC faculty and staff.



String Quartet Concert

Thurs. Feb. 1st @ 12:30 p.m.

Max Noah Recital Hall

Nationally acclaimed guest violinist William Pu and cellist Martin Gueorguiev will join GC faculty members William McClain and David Johnson to perform music by Ludwig van Beethoven and Russian composer Dmitri Shostakovich.

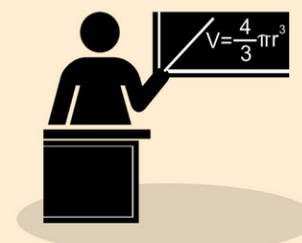


Teacher Recruitment Day

Fri. Feb. 2nd @ 10 a.m.

Magnolia Ballroom

The GC Career Center and the J. Lounsbury College of Education are collaborating to hold a teacher recruitment fair for graduating teacher candidates in the BS and MAT programs to meet and network with participating school systems. Resumes are encouraged.



First Friday Celebration

Fri. Feb. 2nd @ 6 p.m.

Downtown Milledgeville

Join the local community for this celebration of Milledgeville culture focusing on supporting small businesses. This month's theme is "Love Local," featuring contests and photo opportunities.



For more information, visit frontpage.gcsu.edu.

INFLUENZA SEASON STATS

OCT. 1, 2017 - JAN. 20, 2018

14,933 (17.9%)

Influenza B

68,517 (82.1%)

Influenza A

83,450

Positive specimen

513,252

Specimen tested

Influenza A viruses are the most harmful, as they can cause severe disease.

VS

Influenza B viruses are less common than influenza A and mutates about two to three times more slowly than influenza A.

HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF

- TAKE TIME TO GET A FLU VACCINE
- WASH YOUR HANDS OFTEN WITH SOAP AND WATER
- AVOID TOUCHING YOUR EYES, NOSE AND MOUTH. GERMS SPREAD THIS WAY
- TRY TO AVOID CLOSE CONTACT WITH SICK PEOPLE

*This information represents all 50 states, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/>

Terrell Hall receives major renovations, restoration



Christian Brook / Staff Photographer

Terrell Hall served as a dormitory for over 90 years before becoming an office building. The renovations will restore Terrell Hall to its original design.

**Katie
O'Neal**
Staff Writer

GC's historic Terrell Hall is undergoing its first major renovation by Garbutt Construction Co. and Lord Aeck Sargent, who will restore the building to its original design while updating its facilities to the modern era.

The project, which includes Kilpatrick Hall's window replacements, will cost \$13.3 million. Georgia's Governor Nathan Deal and the Georgia General Assembly approved the allocation of the funding from a state general obligation bond, which provides for the construction and development of certain state facilities.

"Once we get all of our approvals together, final acceptance of the fees, we are looking at about a 12-month construction," said Rick Ruark, associate director of Facilities Planning.

The restored building's exterior will look almost identical to its original appearance. The previously closed off entry on the

building's north side will be reopened and altered so that the first floor is accessible from the upper levels, and railings will be added to the porch matching the original design.

"All of our projects are submitted to the Historic Preservation Department," said university architect Michael Rickenbaker.

Terrell Hall was first constructed in 1908 and served as a dormitory until the early 2000s. The building was once connected to Bell Hall by a bridge.

Prior to this year, Terrell Hall had only received a few minor renovations, such as new ceilings and a smoke detection system. The building was brought up to fire code in the 1980s and saw electrical upgrades in the 1990s, but because of air-conditioning issues and wiring problems, GC administration decided it was time to completely revitalize Terrell Hall.

"The good news is Terrell was never fully renovated, so we can actually do it right," Rickenbaker said.

The building is currently in selective demolition and the beginning phases of design, and construction will begin in the summer of 2018. The restorators are implementing an investigative demolition process, which means removing unwanted materials and rediscovering aspects of the

old building's original look.

"[We're] opening up some walls so we can see some of the structure and some of the historical elements that may have been covered in the past and identifying some original materials that may have been covered up," said Rick Ruark.

The workers uncovered the building's original wood flooring and discovered arches located at each of the entrances, the stairwells and throughout the first floor.

"Once you start looking, you can see remnants where they added on," Ruark said. "There is a little separation or crack where you can see where the arch was."

However, the arches, which were concealed by sheetrock, proved difficult to uncover.

"It's amazing how one generation will cover things up and the next one wants to uncover it and go back to the original," said Cindy O'Donnell, a GC media relations specialist.

When Beeson Hall reopened in fall 2017 after its renovations, the professors and departments formerly located in Terrell Hall relocated to Beeson and the McIntosh House. When Terrell Hall is completed, the building will mainly be used by GC's Department of Communication.

**Check out The
Colonnade's
website for
our video on
Terrell Hall's
renovations!**





UNSUNG HEROES

Sylvia Hanson

**Elyssa
Gerber**
Staff Writer

Editor's Note: This is the first installment in a series of profiles on GC staff members whose contributions are not often recognized.

"The students at this school really make my day," said GC custodian Sylvia Hanson. "They are all always so sweet to me, which is why I always try to be a blessing to them."

Hanson has worked for two years as one of GC's 51 custodians. She started cleaning at the freshman dorm Parkhurst Hall, where she said she has nothing but good memories.

"I would always try to pep the students up there because I could tell it was some of their first times really being away from home, and they were scared," she said. "I would be upstairs cleaning before they would leave for class in the morning, so I would always talk to them and tell them good morning. They are always so sweet."

Prior to working at GC, Hanson worked at Cuscowilla, a golf resort on Lake Oconee, cleaning the public areas there for almost 10 years. When she felt it was time to move on, her son Matthew, who attended GC, informed her of a job opportunity on campus because he thought she would really enjoy working around the students.

Hanson has three sons with her husband Lamar, to whom she has now been married for

41 years. Growing up, the two were next-door neighbors, and their mothers were best friends.

"He's a little older than I am, so I would see him as a teenager, and I thought he was real cute," Hanson said. "His mama invited my family over for supper one night, and that was our first date."

In her free time, Hanson enjoys doing yard work and being in nature. She is also a member of Grace Baptist church in Eatonton and regularly participates in fellowship activities there.

Hanson's typical work day begins at 6 a.m. when she clocks in at Foundation Hall before beginning her cleaning routine at Mayfair Hall and the McIntosh House.

The students who work in Mayfair Hall are always happy to see Hanson's big smile walking through the door.

"I love her," said sophomore LeAnn Whitley, a political science major. "She is an angel in human form, and we are really blessed to have her."

Hanson said she considers herself lucky to get to work with such sweet students, but the students that see her everyday are quick to say that they are equally inspired by her.

"She is so friendly and upbeat," said graduate student Danielle Williams, an accounting major who also works in Mayfair Hall. "You could ask anyone in this office and they would all say the same thing. It never seems like there is anything wrong with her, and she always puts me in a good mood."

Hanson said her advice for GC students is to do their best in every area of their lives.

"Just keep working hard at everything you do and following the Lord Jesus Christ," she said, "and He will always help you through anything you're going through."



Madi Harty / Staff Photographer

Hanson has served on GC's custodial staff for two years.



Madi Harty / Staff Photographer

Hanson cleans Mayfair Hall, which houses GC's admissions office.

Career Center braces for spring

**Lindsay
Stevens**
Contributing Writer

The GC Career Center offers a multitude of resources for students to plan their lives after graduation.

"Our main focus is making sure that as students [advance] through Georgia College, they are ready for whatever they plan to transition to when they leave," said Mary Roberts, director of the Career Center.

Resources include resume review days, mock interview days, job and internship fairs and graduate school planning. Specialized advisers assist students with their career-related needs.

The GC Career Center holds individual and group meetings, including weekly group resume writing workshops every Monday and Thursday at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. and internship search workshops every Tuesday and Wednesday at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Starting the week of Feb. 6, the Career Center will offer mock interview sessions scheduled throughout the month, so students can practice interviewing and receive feedback from career advisers.

"The mock interviews really helped me prepare for and understand how an actual job interview would go," said senior Abbey Savage, a physics major.

The Career Center offers group meetings to assist more students in less time, but one-

on-one meetings with the advisers provide individualized visits for students looking to improve their resumes and interview skills and to make a personalized plan for the future.

"The challenge with a group is that everybody's personal history and experience is different, and you have specific questions about your resume, about your job search, about your internship search, about where you're going to go to grad school," said Roberts. "So those individual meetings are really to help you plan out what you're going to do, and most people find that to be extremely beneficial."

Some of its events include job fairs with employers from all over the U.S. looking for GC graduates.

"People think the jobs are local, but that assumption is not true," said Roberts. "A lot of the opportunities we get are from the outside area. Maybe that recruiter comes from Atlanta, but that doesn't mean that company is only located in Atlanta."

Upcoming February events include teacher recruitment day, teacher job interviews with Gwinnett and Fulton County Schools, mock interview days with GC alumni and other employers and a graduate school admission tips and tricks session hosted by the Princeton Review. More information can be found on the Career Center website calendar.

"The Career Center helped me map out how I could use my major regarding a career after college," said sophomore Mallory Matia, a psychology major.

Students with further questions can make an advising appointment online or stop by Lanier 110 Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

GC SGA preps new 2018 communication strategies

**Caroline
Snider**
Staff Writer

GC Student Government Association (SGA) President Mike Muller said that his main priority this semester is external communication between SGA and GC's faculty, staff and student body because SGA cares about hearing students' voices.

Muller said part of that goal is to reach out to the presidents of other student organizations on campus to provide updates and information on what is going on in SGA. As a part of that

effort, Muller and his cabinet are currently working with GC360, GC's student television news station, to begin a live stream of the SGA's weekly senate meetings.

By the end of the year, SGA also wants to create a 24-hour study space for students. Muller is planning to meet with President Dorman to discuss ideas and strategies.

"Our faculty and staff love to work with students," Muller said. "They are all about improving students' lives, and that is our ultimate goal."

Muller said he encourages students to reach out to SGA and invites them to visit during his office hours to chat, ask any questions or voice any concerns.

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**SERVICES TO USE AT THE
CAREER CENTER**

- 1 INDIVIDUAL STRATEGIC CAREER PLANNING
APPOINTMENTS WITH PROFESSIONAL CAREER
ADVISORS**
- 2 CAREER AND MAJOR EXPLORATION**
- 3 RESUMES/CVS/COVER LETTER WRITING &
REVIEWS**
- 4 JOB, GRADUATE SCHOOL, INTERNSHIP, &
SUMMER
RESEARCH SEARCH STRATEGY & APPLICATION
ASSISTANCE**
- 5 MOCK INTERVIEWS**
- 6 EMPLOYER NETWORKING
OPPORTUNITIES**
- 7 NETWORKING/LINKEDIN ASSISTANCE**
- 8 INTERVIEWING SPACE (SKYPE,
PHONE, OR VIDEO)**
- 9 INTERVIEWTEAM - PRACTICE VIDEO
INTERVIEWS**
- 10 JOB/INTERNSHIP OFFER EVALUATION**
- 11 SALARY NEGOTIATION SUPPORT**
- 12 PERSONAL STATEMENT/ESSAY
REVIEWS**
- 13 CAREER INFORMATION HANDOUTS AND
RESOURCES**

THE COLONNADE

IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE POSITION OF EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Application packets can be picked up in Beeson Hall #219.

All applications are due to
Dr. Mary Jean Land by 12 p.m., Friday, Feb. 9 in Beeson Hall #219.

Any current Georgia College student with a GPA average of
2.75 or higher is eligible to apply.



THE COLONNADE

The Colonnade is Georgia College's student-run newspaper.

For more information about The Colonnade, visit gcsucolonnade.com

John Kurtz Field receiving facelift in anticipation for opening day



Patrick Steimer / Staff Photographer

The outfield fence at John Kurtz Field is being replaced with a new chain-link fence. The fence is expected to be completed by opening day.

Patrick Steimer
Staff Writer

When walking throughout the Peeler Athletic Complex, it is hard to miss the John Kurtz baseball field, where major renovations have been made in preparation for the 2018 season. Students and fans of the “Green Machine” will now be able to watch the Bobcats play on their home turf with a brand new chain-link fence in the outfield, replacing the old wooden wall.

“It was a big part of John Kurtz Field, that big green wall, but I think the change is really good,” said head coach Jason Eller. “I think it’s great for our student athletes to be able to get a little bit of a late Christmas present.”

In the past, the Georgia College athletic department had spent over \$10,000 a year on repair fees for the old fence. Exposure to rain and poor drainage had caused the wooden boards to rot, in addition to annual paint jobs and board replacements.

“Every year, there was more maintenance, so we decided to move to a chain-link which should last 30 to 40 years,” said Wendell Staton, GC’s athletic director. “It’s really a one-time deal, as opposed to having to deal with something every single year.”

The new chain-link fence was also

built with safety in mind to create a better experience for players and fans. According to Staton, the \$50,000 investment included raising the first and third base lines from three feet to eight feet to protect pedestrians from foul balls.

In the future, the athletic department hopes to add pads to the outside corners of the outfield, which will provide an extra cushion for players on the run.

“Hopefully we will be able to make more plays up against the wall, and once they get the padding down, I think it will look good,” said senior center fielder Logan Mattix.

With the new fence in place, fans will be able to watch the game from behind the outfield wall for the first time. Prospective college baseball players can watch the outfielders up close and personal, while home fans can heckle the visiting players.

Furthermore, the team hopes that students leaving the Recreation Center will see the game in action and stop to watch some innings.

“Maybe we can create a home field advantage,” said Coach Eller. “We hope that it brings more people to the park.”

While the GC athletic department is excited to start the season with the new additions, the old green wall will still represent an important piece of history at John Kurtz Field.

Mattix stated that he will miss “hearing the loud bang off the wall” from line drives and batting practice. Eller said he will remember the big defensive plays made by the Bobcats last season.

However, the new fence also represents the start of a new chapter for GC baseball.

“We won the Peach Belt Tournament last year, so we’re defending tournament

champions,” Eller said. “Our goal is to be the regular season champs and hopefully host the southeast regional.”

For Mattix, he hopes to end his final season as a Bobcat with the chance to play this summer at the College World Series in Omaha, Nebraska.

“I think we have unfinished business from last season,” Mattix said.

Opening day for the 2018 season will kick off on Friday, Feb. 2 at 5 p.m. against the Paine College Lions.



Patrick Steimer / Staff Photographer



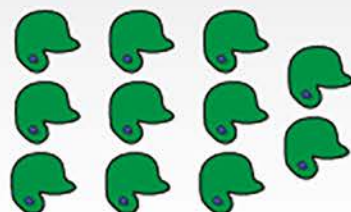
GEORGIA COLLEGE SOFTBALL & BASEBALL

SOFTBALL



BASEBALL

2017 RECORD **30-19**



11 RETURNING
PLAYERS

HEAD COACH:

JAMIE GRODECKI

8TH
SEASON

96-60

RECORD
AT GC

TEAM LED PBC IN ON
BASE PERCENTAGE LAST SEASON

0.392

&

3RD
MOST STOLEN BASES

IN PBC

FAITH FLANDERS

5TH BEST
BATTING AVG.

2ND MOST RUNS
BATTED IN PBC

2017 RECORD
35-14

21-3

HOME

10-10

AWAY

HEAD COACH:

JASON ELLER

2ND
SEASON

35-15

RECORD
AT GC

BRANDON BENSON
HOME RUNS: **22**

BRADY WALSH
ERA: **2.52**

BRANDON BENSON
RBI: **78**

CAL GENTRY
BATTING AVG.: **0.442**

LEADERS

GAMES TO WATCH



FEB. 9-11 V. #2 TAMPA BAY @ GC

MARCH 16-18 V. #23 @ NORTH GEORGIA

Women’s basketball in late-season form over break



WOMEN’S BASKETBALL WINTER BREAK RECAP:

@ USC-Aiken: W-72- 60 Flagler: L-65- 63	@ Georgia Southwestern: W-76-63 Clayton State: W-69- 67	USC-Aiken: W-69- 45 @ North Georgia: L-67- 64
@ UNC-Pembroke: W-66- 65 (OT)		Lander: W-63- 55 (OT)

Kristen Pack / Graphic Designer

Alex Jones
Staff Writer

While the GC campus was closed for Christmas break, the GC women’s basketball team stayed hot on the court, as they posted a 6-3 record from Dec. 19 to Jan. 22.

After a tough loss in the final seconds to Flagler on Dec. 30, the Bobcats went on a five-game winning streak. It ended with a buzzer-beater by North Georgia on Jan. 20 to defeat the Bobcats 67-64. “This is a talented group with great chemistry on and off the court,” said head coach Mo Smith. “They all have incredible character [and] are hungry to accomplish their goals.” During the winning streak, the Bobcats knocked off No. 25 ranked

Lander and defeated Clayton State, a feat that had not been accomplished by a GC women’s basketball squad in nine years. After starting the year off with a 1-4 record, the Bobcats have found a rhythm in their schemes and play style, improving their overall record to 11-7. A key to their success is the solid leadership and accountability the captains hold to the players each and every day. “We have the best leadership

on this team that I’ve seen since becoming a coach here at GC, led by Brianna Davis, Ta’Asia Wright, Sydney Cleveland and Alyah McGriff,” Smith said. Over the span of nine games between Dec. 19 and Jan. 22, McGriff averaged 19 points and six rebounds per game. Davis was not far behind, as she averaged 13 points per game over the same span. “We stay together and build a bond on and off the court,” said junior guard Shay Tarver. “Our

captains hold us all accountable, and we’re a family.” The Bobcats take pride in their defensive-minded style of play. As a defense-oriented team, they trust the offense to come along as they hinder their opponents scoring attempts. “We don’t want to get on our high horse for beating the teams we’ve faced so far,” Tarver said. “There are more games to come, and we’re working hard to get better everyday.”

Men’s basketball faces tough losses in overtime

Alex Jones
Staff Writer

GC men’s basketball battled through the winter break with three of their nine games exceeding regulation and carrying them into overtime frenzies. After accumulating two wins by defeating USC Aiken and Flagler on Dec. 19 and 30, the Bobcats dropped three

straight games, two of them in overtime. The toughest loss came at the hands of UNC Pembroke, the No. 1 ranked team in the league, as the Bobcats took Pembroke to double overtime before falling behind to ultimately lose the game 82-75. “We lost some tough overtime games due to missed free throws and things just not working the way we wanted them to,” said head coach Mark Gainous. “We were

mentally and physically fatigued, but I think we’ve been playing solid as of recently.” The Bobcats regrouped and defeated Lander in overtime, 75-64, on Jan. 13. They lost their next three games but got back on the winning side after beating Young Harris College 63-55 on Jan. 24. “We’re trying to play more inside, out basketball,” said junior forward Isaac Thomas. “We want to feed the post and work inside

the paint and then kick the ball back outside for three-point shot attempts.” The Bobcats are 9-9 on the season and 5-7 in the conference. The team has an array of freshmen and sophomores who experience a lot of playing time throughout the games. “We like to control the game at a slow pace and let our defense cause commotion for the other teams,” Gainous said. “We’re not

as good defensively as we were at the beginning of the year, but we’re starting to get back to what we’re good at.” The Bobcats have 10 more games remaining in the season with half of them being played in Milledgeville. “We’ve just got to stick together and make the shots when we need to,” said sophomore forward Kohl Roberts. “We’re all leaders, and we all do what’s best for the team.”



MEN’S BASKETBALL WINTER BREAK RECAP:

@ USC-Aiken: W-62- 59 Flagler: W-65- 55	@ Georgia Southwestern: L-85-82 (OT) Clayton State: L-88- 64	USC-Aiken: L-84- 75 @ North Georgia: L-78- 72
@ UNC-Pembroke: L-82- 75 (2OT)		Lander: W-75- 64 (OT)

Kristen Pack / Graphic Designer

A word from your heartbroken sports editors

Chris Lambert
Co-Sports Editor

In our first issue of the semester, my co-editor Isaiah Smith and I, two diehard University of Georgia football fans, just needed to get a few things off our chest. Call it venting, call it therapeutic, but the College Football Playoff Final did a number on us both.

I went to the game with my little brother. When we both got tickets, I was nervous about even making the trip to Atlanta. As a lifelong fan, I've become almost cynical in my treatment of the Dawgs. We'll be ranked in the preseason top five, but I know we'll probably finish 8-4 and lose to UCF in the Capital One Bowl. That being said, there was a palpable vibration in the air among the Georgia fans, a foreign hope and optimism. I could move my hand though the air and almost feel the crackling excitement in anticipation.

For the first half, hell, for the first three quarters, that optimism was validated. The UGA fans showed up en masse, and at times it felt like all that was missing were the hedges. The fans, Isaiah and I included, were finally on the other side of the emotional rollercoaster that is a college football game. The Dawgs were not only leading, they were dominating.

Alabama's starting quarterback, Jalen Hurts, who had only lost two games leading up to the final, finished the first half 3-8, for 21 yards. The dominance of the Dawgs in the

first half only served to validate the incredible coaching prowess that Crimson Tide head coach Nick Saban exercised at the expense of our sanity.

Saban made one move in the game that would go on to characterize the rest of the game: he pulled Hurts in lieu of true freshman lefty Tua Tagovailoa. Tua came out shaky, sure, but he made plays that Hurts just wasn't making. Alabama didn't vary their offense much in the second half. The Tide got in a five receiver set, with Tua alone in the backfield. Imagine, an 18-year-old kid alone in the backfield, with the task of clawing back against one of the nation's top defenses. But, Tua made plays.

We can talk about the penalties, the questionable play calling on the part of UGA offensive coordinator Jim Chaney, and yes, we can talk about how in the world the Georgia secondary gave up a touchdown pass on second and 26. But, what good would that do? Most of the frustration, at least for me, is that the final was my life as a Georgia fan in a microcosm. It started with every reason in the world for us to win, but in the end we were just not quite there. To say nothing for the fact that I am a huge Atlanta Falcons fan, it has been a tough year for Georgia sports, collegiate and professional alike.

All that being said, the overriding optimism I've had that's gotten me through losses to Georgia Tech, Florida and yes, Alabama, is still there. As Isaiah and I have discussed at great length, the road back to the College Football Playoff Final goes through Athens for once, and for us after all these years, that is all we can ask for at this point.

Isaiah Smith
Co-Sports Editor

This year's College Football Playoff National Championship was one of the hardest things I've ever endured as a sports fan.

The night was supposed to be filled with cheers from fans in red and black and eventually end with the seniors donning the iconic red jerseys and silver britches on the stage in Mercedes-Benz Stadium hoisting the coveted College Football Playoff Championship trophy and getting one final curtain call in their home state in front of the home fans.

Instead, what ensued was a heartbreak of epic proportions for Dawg Nation. When Tua Tagovailoa found DeVonta Smith streaking down the sideline for the game-winning touchdown pass, it was the stuff that rips young children's hearts out and makes grown men cry.

Watching my team lose a game of that magnitude on a stage that large may easily be the worst thing I have to do this year, but I wouldn't have it any other way for many reasons.

Watching this year's team make the journey to that game gave me with one of the best college football seasons that I, and many others like myself, have ever seen in our lives.

And while watching this season, I, and many other fans like myself, rediscovered why we fell in love with college football in the first place.

At the beginning of the season, nobody expected this Georgia team to play for a national title. But this team defied the odds, and they put Dawg Nation on a rollercoaster of emotions that started in Athens and made thrilling pit-stops in Jacksonville, Auburn, Knoxville, Pasadena and Atlanta.

Even though we left more of these stops happy than we did sad, it's the times we got back on the bus sad that showed us the most about this team and ourselves.

After the tail-whipping we took at Auburn, we learned to use letdown as fuel to keep pushing because there were bigger goals in sight.

Following the first half in Pasadena, we learned what it felt like to bounce back off the mat after being obliterated in the beginning of the fight. As fans, we learned to never walk out on our team until the fat lady sings because this group specialized in the art of the late-round knockout.

Now, in the wake of the National Championship where Dawg fans' hearts were savagely ripped from their chests, I realize that even though we fell short of the end goal, the journey was well worth it.

The journey, which involved playing an unhealthy amount of emotional Russian Roulette, is so much better than the alternative of never having made the journey in the first place.

As a fan, this journey is why I, and so many others, watch the game and pull so passionately for our teams.

Because even though the pain of losing in the game of emotional Russian Roulette hurts in the moment, they can't compare to the thrills that the high points on this emotional rollercoaster called college football brings to the loyal and dedicated fans who live and breathe the game.

So to all the Florida, South Carolina, Tennessee and even the obnoxious Alabama fans, your snide comments about losing on the biggest stage don't hurt. They can't hurt because we, as fans, have already endured the worst, and we're still back to ride with this Georgia program until the bitter end.

Another piece of advice to all our SEC East rivals: I'd suggest you all start getting comfortable competing for second place for a while because for the foreseeable future, the road to an SEC title and a playoff berth is going to run through Athens.



Chris Lambert / Staff Photographer

WGUR is now accepting applications for

GENERAL MANAGER



**Application packets can be picked up in
Beeson Hall Room 219.**

All applications are due to
Dr. Mary Jean Land by 12 p.m.,
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Any current Georgia College student with a GPA
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A LOOK AT GC NURSING STUDENT WITH TYPE 1 DIABETES

Amy Strang
Co-Arts & Life Editor

Flying down the highway, 8-year-old Hannah Young watched the scenery outside whiz past the moving car. She sat inside with her parents and three brothers as they made the long drive back from a family vacation to Florida.

Suddenly, Hannah realized she needed to use the restroom. The brood pulled over, filed out, took a bathroom break and piled back into the car to continue their drive.

Moments later, Hannah needed to use the restroom again. Slightly annoyed, the family stopped at the next exit and again, filed out, let Hannah use the restroom, piled back in and took off. Hannah's parents, Joe and Beckye Young did not think a thing of it. Hannah was a young girl; she probably drank too much water before the car ride.

Again, about 30 minutes later, Hannah needed to use the restroom. And again. And again. At nearly every exit the family approached during the five hour drive.

Beckye decided that a visit to the pediatrician was in order. "We called the doctor that morning and told the pediatrician's office she had a bladder infection," she said.

Beckye and Hannah, along with her three brothers, went to the doctor, as a pit stop on their way to school registration with the expectation that the doctor would prescribe some medication for a bladder infection, and they would be on their way.

"Dr. Harrell asked me if Joe could come pick up the other kids," Beckye said. "She told me that Hannah and I needed to go immediately to Scottish Rite for more testing."

After a long wait at Scottish Rite, the test results were in. Hannah had Type 1 diabetes.

"We were shocked, overwhelmed with the diagnosis," Beckye said. "No one in our family had ever had Type 1 diabetes."

To the family's, and to Hannah's dismay, diabetes would become part of their everyday lives.

According to the American Diabetes Association (ADA), about 1.25 million Americans live with Type 1 diabetes, and an estimated 40,000 are diagnosed each year in the United States.

Only 5 percent of those diagnosed with diabetes have Type 1. Most who have Type 1 will be diagnosed in childhood or as young adults.

What was happening in Hannah's body was her pancreas not producing insulin. According to the ADA, the body breaks down sugars and starches that are consumed into a simple sugar called glucose, which is then used for energy.

The ADA defines insulin as "a hormone that the body needs to get glucose from the bloodstream into the cells of the body."

No insulin means no glucose.

After her diagnosis, Hannah spent a week in the hospital learning what it meant to live with diabetes. Her doctors taught her and her parents how to properly inject her shots, initially injecting six shots every day.

Twelve years later, Georgia College junior Hannah reflected on her disease, showing off her insulin pump that she now uses instead of injecting herself every day. She pulled out her glucose monitor because she had to adjust it for her medium white mocha drink.

"If I was taking shots, I'd be taking five shots a day," Hannah said. "I did that when I was eight, and I was covered

in bruises. Sometimes I used to skip meals, so I wouldn't have to take shots."

Hannah's mother said that at first, Hannah did not understand that she had just been sentenced to a lifelong illness.

"The entire family had to adjust to Hannah's diabetes," Beckye said. "She was a trooper, but it was hard."

Her parents wanted to help her cope the best they could, so the very first summer after her diagnosis, they signed her up for Camp Kudzu, a non-profit camp in Georgia for Type 1 diabetics.

"It is an understatement to say this camp changed her life," Beckye said. "Seeing a camp full of kids just like her showed her she was not alone. She learned to give herself shots at this camp, and her acceptance and outlook was that she was one of many and would be okay."

After being a camper for so many years, Hannah now works there as a counselor.

"[Diabetes] sucks, and if there was a cure then obviously I'd want the cure," Hannah said. "But in general, it's brought me so many people into my life because of camp. When you meet another diabetic, that's a bond that you can't replicate."

Hannah said her journey through diabetes is one she wouldn't trade because not only did it bring her close friends through Camp Kudzu, but it led her to pursue a degree in nursing, a career she is passionate about and hopes will lead her to work with other diabetics.

"Because of the camp that I work at, I just love working with other diabetics," Hannah said. "I nanny for families with children who have diabetes because dear God, I don't think my parents ever went out after I was diagnosed."

Her diagnosis not only lit the path for her career, but it also led her to be an activist for diabetes awareness on Georgia College's campus. She and a few others living with diabetes recently started a chapter of the College Diabetes Network where students can go for community and support. A transfer student, Hannah also started a College Diabetes network at her previous college, Kennesaw State University.

"I love to help educate," she said.

Hannah's friends said she has a refreshing openness about her condition.

"She has a really good attitude about it," said her close friend Hailey Lawson, whom Hannah met at Georgia College. "It's not a matter of suffering. It's just a way of life, and she is responsible with it."

Hannah has spent the past 12 years, enduring constant finger pricks, injections, doctors visits, continuous glucose monitor insertions and pump site changes. For a study abroad trip to the United Kingdom, she had to lug along all her devices, which she even ran out of while visiting London.

After all she has endured, the part of this disease she said makes her the most uncomfortable are the stares from strangers they quietly try to make sense of what that thing attached to her arm is or what that box with a tube coming out of it is doing in her back pocket.

"I'm the type of person who, if someone sees the little thing in my back pocket, I'd rather them just ask me what it is than stare at it," she said. "I'm a very open person. At the beach, that's a big thing when I have all these devices on me. People stare. I see them watching me as I walk, and that makes me uncomfortable."

Along with these daily challenges, Hannah faced her most grave challenge just under a year ago when one of Hannah's

closest Camp Kudzu friends, Marquis House, passed away in February from a diabetes complication.

House, a Type 1 diabetic, slipped into what's called diabetic ketoacidosis, or DKA. To this day, Hannah becomes emotional when talking about her loss.

"It's nothing to take lightly," said Alice Loper, nurse practitioner and director of Georgia College Health and Wellness Services. "When the sugar levels are high, it affects every blood vessel in the body."

She explained that diabetic ketoacidosis is when "your body starts feeding off of itself, so to speak. You start metabolizing the fats of the body. Normal blood sugar is about 100 ... we're talking about a blood sugar of five or six hundred. They will eventually go into a coma."

Death, she said, would occur in about a day.

"It terrified the living s--- out of me," Hannah said of House's death. "He'd been DKA a few times and hospitalized. I've been taking better care of myself since then, not because I'm at that level, I've never been in DKA or hospitalized, but I'd never seen diabetes as a deadly disease before."

After all Hannah has experienced, after all of the blood tests, all of the endocrinologist visits, all of the shots and finger pricks and staring eyes, what shines through Hannah most powerfully is not shame. It is not embarrassment. It is not sensitivity. It is pride. In the best way possible, she is proud of her story.

"I wouldn't be who I am if I didn't have diabetes," she said. With a laugh she added, "I tell people I'm a double whammy because I'm a Jewish diabetic."

Hannah is, in her own words, "a proud owner of a useless pancreas."



Photo courtesy of Hannah Young

Young displays her glucose monitor.



Madi Harty / Staff Photographer

For the Times Talk on Jan. 24, Professor Pate McMichael led a conversation on censorship, but he didn't have to do much—the passionate and informative discussion practically drove itself. Like every week, the talk was far from lacking in zeal and energy.

Times Talks are woven into the history of Georgia College and the Milledgeville community. There have been around 350 discussions and 12,000 total participants since the talks began in 2005.

At each Times Talk, a facilitator leads the discussion on a particular topic, but they then open the floor for those attending to ask questions, provide insight and share personal experiences of their own. Students, professors and Milledgeville residents are invited to attend and provide their own input.

For 50 minutes every Wednesday, the back corner of Georgia College's library is filled with the sounds of discussion and the smell of free pizza, which is offered in exchange for your attendance and attentiveness.

"The essence of a college education is learning for the sake of learning," said rhetoric professor Janet Hoffman. "What I love about Times Talk is that's exactly what it's about, and the topic changes. It's always something fresh and new, and people bring different perspectives to it."

The talks focus on content from a variety of articles in the New York Times. GC offers students a way to download the paper for free on NYTimes.com (see infographic).

"This is what college is really about," said McMichael. "Liberal arts schools in particular should be very vocal and vibrant. They should have places where students talk about the important things like government, religion, math, politics or science. This is a space to do that. It's voluntary to show up."

Even the silence during a Times Talk is charged with a thought-provoking energy. This is typical of the atmosphere, according to senior Tavaris Johnson, a sociology major.

"I plan my schedule around this because I enjoy coming to them," Johnson said. "Sometimes I'm learning about issues that I know nothing about, so I get to hear from a scholar on that issue. It gets me to think about things in different ways."

This semester will feature talks on technology, politics and more. Head over to the library every Wednesday at 12 p.m. for free pizza and discussion.

"What I think students can get out of it is what we're all really here for: Knowledge is power," Hoffman said. "We're all truth-seekers. These [Times Talks] should spark the beginning of curiosity."



HOW TO SURVIVE FRESHMAN YEAR: ADVICE FROM UPPERCLASSMEN

Becca Fallon
Contributing Writer

Moving to a different city, having a roommate for the first time, navigating the surplus of freedom. Sounds like freshman year.

Before college, students dream about this new-found freedom. Once it's a reality, the adjustment can actually be quite challenging.

Halfway through the first year, most freshmen are well aware of this. Add in the expectation of performing well in classes, becoming involved in clubs and community engagement, and college can quickly become overwhelming.

"Something I find challenging is finding a balance between my academics and extracurriculars," said freshman Rachel Jeneff, an exercise science major. "In terms of academics, I thought it was going to be really hard to get to know the faculty, but something I really love about Georgia College is how easy the professors are to talk to and how much they

try to get to know us. They all know my name and care about my success."

Math professor and GC alumni James Baugh imparted advice on how students should be aware of the opportunities available to them.

"Attend class, even those that you might not like or might not pertain to your major," Baugh said. "Remind yourself that even if you're spending someone else's money, you're paying to be here. This is not something just to get through. College is something where you're trying to get back as much of your money in knowledge and experiences as possible."

Baugh said he believes that there are many unique features the first-year experience offers that should be cherished before they're gone.

"It's in your best interest to make full use of all the learning assistance and resources that you have in each course," said Baugh.

A universal piece of advice upperclassmen have for freshmen is to get more involved in activities on campus. For junior Beth Renfrow, a liberal studies major, it is important for students to take time to explore their interests.

"A common misconception [about] college is that you have to know exactly what you want to do coming in," said Renfrow. "I suggest that freshmen take their time and try new classes, maybe one that seems scary but exciting. No one should be afraid to branch out."

Senior Lauren Hovey, a psychology major, said that freshman year is full of firsts.

"Having that feeling of the blank slate where you get to do a lot of firsts that maybe you didn't have in high school," she explained. "Things like getting involved in your dorm and having a roommate make freshman year very memorable."

"My mind was everywhere that first semester," said senior William Paschal, a management major. "Coming from a big city like Atlanta, Milledgeville was a culture shock. It takes a while to get used to not necessarily having a set schedule like in high school."

Paschal emphasized that each successive year in college is a learning experience, adopting new tips and tricks along the way.

"Four years fly by fast," Paschal said. "Don't let it fly by you."



Q: What's your favorite way to spend a snow day?

Compiled by Madi Harty



"Spending time with roommates, watching movies and sledding with our sled made out of cutting boards."

-Courtney Miotti, junior and education major



"Getting to sleep in. I didn't even play in the snow. Then walking out at like 3pm and being like, 'Whoa it snowed.'"

-Emily Newhoff, freshman and public health major



"Sleighyaking—kayaking and sleighing combined."

-Preston Oakes, junior and nursing major



SNOW WAY!

Georgia College students take advantage of two snow days during their first week of the spring semester.



Photos courtesy of Ada Montgomery, Ashley Cooper, Taylor Ussery, Mallory Johnson, Patrick Steimer